

NEWS RELEASE



**FROM: Catherine L. Hanaway
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PERRY COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM

January 15, 2008

A Perry County, Missouri man pled guilty today to unlawful possession of a firearm, announced United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway.

DAVID J. AINSWORTH, age 26, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm. He appeared before United States District Judge Henry E. Autrey.

On June 5, 2007, an agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF) assisted Perry County, Missouri law enforcement officers in investigating reports of automatic weapon fire coming from the area Ainsworth's residence in Perry County, Missouri. During the search of the residence, the law enforcement officers found a Mosin-Nagant, Model M-44, 7.62 caliber, bolt action rifle; a Mossberg, Model 500A, 12 gauge shotgun; and a Bersa, Model Thunder 380, .380 caliber pistol.

Due to Ainsworth's prior felony convictions, he is prohibited from possessing firearms. He now faces a maximum punishment of 10 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. Sentencing has been set for April 15, 2008.

Hanaway praised the Perry County, Missouri Sheriff's Department and the **Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives** for their work on the case. Assistant United States Attorney Paul W. Hahn handled the prosecution for the Government.